



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 10
1200 Sixth Avenue
Seattle, Washington 98101

Cyprus

Reply to
Attn of: WD-137

APR 09 1993

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APR 14 1993

IDAHO OPERATIONS OFFICE

Glenn Curtis, Vice President
Blackbird Mining, Inc.
P.O. Box 1645
Salmon, Idaho 83467

RE: Blackbird Mine
Storm Water General NPDES Permit No.: ID-R-00A072

Dear Mr. Curtis:

In October of 1992, a Notice of Intent (NOI) was submitted by Noranda Mining Inc. to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The NOI proposed to cover storm water discharges from the Blackbird Mine site under the above referenced general permit.

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that coverage under the above referenced general permit is being revoked for your facility pursuant to 40 CFR 124.52. The Idaho Division of Environmental Quality has listed Blackbird Creek and Panther Creek as water quality limited segments. Due to water quality concerns in these creeks, EPA has determined that the storm water general permit will not be protective of Idaho Water Quality Standards and Wastewater Treatment Requirements, IDAPA 16.0102130.

The matter regarding the completion of a Form 2F (Application for Permit to Discharge Storm Water Discharges Associated with Industrial Activity) is still pending evidentiary hearing. If you have questions concerning storm water issues, please contact Kathleen Collins at (206) 553-2108. If you have legal questions please contact Jim Markillie at (206) 553-1796.

Sincerely,

Charles E. Findley
Director, Water Division

cc: Joseph Scheuering, Blackbird Mine
Anthony Garvin, Brobeck, Phleger & Harrison
IDEQ, Boise Central Office
IDEQ, Pocatello Regional Office